



Instructional Technology Newsline

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

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Instructional Technology Staff
(573) 751-8247

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- ◆ Deborah S. Sutton, Director
- ◆ Claranne Vogel, Supervisor
- ◆ Lisa Walters, Library Media and Technology Consultant
- ◆ Rosalyn Wieberg, Supervisor
- ◆ Shirley Brumley, Administrative Assistant

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◆ **Instructional Technology Update**
Budgets / Grant Programs

New Missouri State Law

The 2004 General Assembly enacted a state law regarding the posting of district policies on district websites. The Department's School Laws and Legislation section addressed this action during the August conference for school administrators.

Senate Bill 968

Section 3 of SB 968 provides that if a school district hosts a web site, that district shall post both a current version of that district's policy manual and a current version of that district's handbook(s). The Department is advising districts to post, at minimum, any policies to which students, parents, or patrons would be held accountable. Note that the Missouri School Boards' Association (MSBA) is offering to convert current policies into a web-based format for a minimal charge.

Missouri Technology Acquisition Grant (TAG) Program

After years of steady funding, at roughly \$12 million, the TAG formula grant program was reduced to under \$8 million in FY03 and not budgeted at all for FY04. The Department plans to submit a request to the 2005 General Assembly for \$5 million to re-instate the TAG Program for 2005-2006.

Missouri Safe Schools & Pilot Safe Schools Grants Program

Districts, particularly those receiving a Pilot Schools or a Safe Schools grant, are reminded of the Missouri Association for Alternative Education (MAAE) annual conference October 29-30, at the Holiday Inn Executive Center in Columbia, Missouri. The 2004 Conference: Kindling the Spirit will offer a slate of presentations covering a wide variety of topics of alternative education and serving at-risk students. To submit a proposal or learn more about the conference, visit: <http://maae.info/>.

A national conference opportunity -- The 2004 National Summit on Emergency Preparedness and Crisis Management for Schools, being held October 18-19 at the Radisson Barceló Hotel in Washington, DC, will help faculty develop strategies to design, implement and improve school Emergency Preparedness Plans. This conference will discuss how to build and coordinate a team consisting of school personnel, public safety officials, psychologists and members of the community, present proven emergency planning models, and assist schools in drafting all-inclusive plans and comply with Title IV. For more information, or to view a full agenda, please contact Shawn Keeley at Keeley@performancweb.org.

Federal Title II.D "Ed Tech" Program

There isn't any "news" regarding current programs; however, there has been recent Congressional activity that would impact next year's funding. Per a recent SETDA news bulletin:

House Appropriations Bill Cuts \$91 Million From the Education Technology Block Grant --

On July 8, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education approved a FY05 spending bill that would cut \$91.8 million from the Education Technology Block Grant, leaving the program with \$600 million in approved funding for FY05. The Subcommittee's bill would also eliminate all funding for the Community Technology Centers, Star Schools and Preparing Tomorrows' Teachers to Use Technology program. Overall, education technology programs would sustain \$120 million in cuts over last year. The sole bright spot in the bill for education technology was the statewide database program, which, for the first time, would receive an appropriation of \$30 million. Those funds would go towards a competitive grant program from which states can receive funds to develop longitudinal databases to assist with the implementation of No Child Left Behind.

Other major winners in the bill included Title I and IDEA, both of which received a \$1 billion increase, and the Math/Science Partnerships program which saw a near doubling of its funding over last year. One program particularly hard hit by cuts was the Comprehensive School Reform program, which lost nearly two-thirds of its funding over last year.

The full House Appropriations Committee passed this version later in July, but the House floor has not yet acted. That should happen in September, following the six-week August recess, and will largely be determined by how long it takes to work through the 9/11 initiatives package. The Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittees have not yet begun to mark-up their versions of FY05 spending bills and will not do so until at least September.

At this point, it is unclear what the full ramifications of this appropriations language and cuts will be and it is unclear how the Senate will respond. However, it is quite clear that the potential outcome for education technology does not look good. Possible scenarios for what might occur include:

- The Senate accepts the House's cuts and the block grant sustains a \$91 million hit.
- The Senate restores the funding in the Senate version but then has to compromise or split the difference in conference – the block grant most likely sustains a substantial hit.
- The Senate decides not to take up the Labor, HHS, Appropriations bill and we operate under a continuing resolution (CR) with level funding from this year. How long would the CR last? Until after the election? Throughout the next year?
- The Administration and/or House and/or Senate change leadership and all programs are up for grabs. However, the block grant has been marked for a cut and therefore, it could be suggested again in a future session of Congress.

Census of Technology

2004 COT Data Collection and Reporting

Last month it was reported that all but a few districts had completed the COT, with most of the missing data relating to building-level details. Instructional Technology contacted these districts and all data should be in soon. However, a glitch has prevented some of the building-level data from being transferred to the data warehouse. The problem is being corrected and Instructional Technology should soon be able to start tabulating building responses and complete the statewide report.

2005 COT Item Review

The Department has already begun looking at next year's data collection and is pleased to report plans to eliminate approximately another 25 percent of the items. The 2005 core data screens (30 and 31) will address around 30 items instead of the 43 asked in 2004 and the more than 70 items asked in 2001 and 2002. Draft [Word] documents should be available for review by October. Contact Instructional Technology if you are interested in participating in this review process.

E-rate Program

SLD temporarily suspends issuance of funding commitment decision letters (FCDLs)

On August 19, it was announced that, as a result of the USAC being directed by the FCC to move governmental accounting standards by October 1, the SLD has not issued FCDLs for any Funding year since August 3, 2004, and will be temporarily suspending further issuance of such letters. USAC is working with the FCC to resolve these issues and, once that happens, will resume issuing commitment letters. In the meantime, SLD is continuing to review applications so they will be in a position to issue FCDLs when the matter is resolved. USAC expects the issue to be resolved in the near future.

FCC releases Fifth Report and Order

The FCC's new E-rate rules (the Fifth Report and Order – FCC 04-190) were released on Friday, August 13th. The new Order deals with four major topics: the recovery of funds disbursed in violation of program rules, five-year document retention requirements, technology plan requirements, and new form certifications. A copy of the full Order is available at <http://www.e-ratecentral.com/>. See related article at: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=5215>. Details regarding technology plan requirement changes are addressed later in this newsletter.

E-Rate assistance offer to Missouri E-rate applicants

Source: Jeanne Sullivan, MOREnet

Funds for Learning, LLC, providers of the free web-based tool called E-rate Manager SL, has a special offer to Missouri E-rate applicants with regards to their E-rate Manager SL+ service. E-rate Manager SL is designed to assist E-rate applicants with the management of their funding commitments. The free tool can be accessed online at <http://www.eratemanager.com> and clicking on "Register" on the left hand side of the screen to request an activation code. An add-on product called E-rate Manager SL+ provides, for a small annual fee, archive and asset management capability. A

discounted subscription for the first year on E-rate Manager SL+ is being offered to Missouri E-rate applicants through October 31, 2004, with a subscription price of \$70 instead of the regular \$99. Ordering information is available at <http://www.eratemanager.com/MOREnet>. If you have any questions about E-rate Manager or on ordering please contact Peter Kaplan at 703-351-5070 or e-mail pkaplan@fundsforlearning.com.

District Technology Plan Approval

FCC Fifth Report and Order – FCC 04-190

Section C of the Report and Order discusses changes to the timing, content, and approval of district technology plans, as detailed below. Note that Missouri schools with plans approved by the Department would meet these requirements.

Timing – applicants are expected to develop a technology plan prior to requesting bids on services in FCC Form 470. Applicants with plans that have not yet been approved when they file Form 470 must certify that they understand their technology plans must be approved prior to commencement of service, and applicants must certify on Form 486 that the technology plans on which they based their purchases were approved before they began to receive service. This revision permits applicants to meet technology plan requirements as long as technology plans will be approved before receiving service.

Content – technology plans should focus on ensuring that technologies are used effectively to achieve educational goals (rather than assuming a greater role in monitoring the procurement process or act as preliminary RFPs), meet technology planning goals and requirements of the Enhancing Education Through Technology (Title II.D) Program, and demonstrate capacity to secure the necessary resources required to utilize e-rate discounts.

Approval – the FCC modified rules to address non-public schools that are not eligible to secure approval of their technology plans from their states, by permitting such schools to obtain approval from USAC-certified entities.

2005 District tech plan approval process

On August 23, Instructional Technology mailed letters to the 16 Missouri school districts that need to submit new district education technology plans for state approval in 2005 – and to the more than 450 districts with plans scheduled for approval in 2006. Letters explained that the scoring guide used the last three years to approve plans has been updated, detailed the submission process for having plans approved, and explained why a district should elect to submit a plan for approval in 2005 rather than wait until 2006. Related to the E-rate discussion above, if a school “desires to order services beyond the scope of its existing technology plan, it needs to prepare and seek timely approval of an appropriately revised technology plan”. Other reasons for early submission of a plan for state approval include: the district has a new comprehensive school improvement plan that necessitates changes to the technology plan approved in 2003, has already completed most of the action plans and implementation strategies detailed in the 2003 plan, and/or has experienced significant changes in personnel, academic performance standings, technology holdings, technical capacity, and the like, that necessitate a new or revised plan.



Missouri “Smart Buy” Program

Purchase high-end printers at low-end prices via the State of Missouri’s Smart Buy program

Missouri “Smart Buy” Program –

Launched by Governor Holden and state agencies to leverage the state's volume purchasing of computers and printers, Smart Buy is able to address both cost and quality. Operated through the Missouri Prime Vendor Contract and World Wide Technology, Missouri schools can take advantage of the state's bidding process and the program's great discounts – that run 20 to 30 percent below national education pricing and other equipment available through the state contract but not part of the Smart Buy program.

Printer program –

The state announced the standardization of printer purchases with HP, Lexmark, and Xerox. The bid process defined five product categories. For each category, a specific printer model has been identified, along with a list of options that allow for greater flexibility in printer configurations. Suppliers have indicated a set price as well as the corresponding “discount off” of list. The base configuration prices and option prices are set and will be offered through the end of June 2005. Schools can submit purchase orders at anytime during the program, with no minimum purchase required.

The five printer product categories and vendors include:

- Category 1: Workgroup Laser monochrome – awarded to Lexmark
- Category 2: Workgroup Laser color – awarded to Xerox
- Category 3: Workgroup Inkjet color – awarded to HP
- Category 4: Desktop Laser monochrome – awarded to Lexmark
- Category 5: Desktop inkjet color – awarded to HP

Examples of product pricing under Category 1: Workgroup Laser monochrome:

- Lexmark T630n that prints 35 pages per minute = \$738.65
compared to \$921 for another [quality] vendor’s product that prints only 25 pages per minute
- Lexmark T632n that prints 40 pages per minute = \$1,015.14
compared to \$1,378 for another [quality] vendor’s product that prints 35 pages per minute
- Lexmark T634n that prints 45 pages per minute = \$1,198.79
compared to \$1,750 for another [quality] vendor’s product that prints the same 45 pages per minute

Contacts –

To learn more about the origin of the Smart Buy program, visit <http://www.smartbuy.mo.gov>. For specific information on pricing options and purchasing procedures, visit <http://www.wwt.com/missouri> or contact Molly Jones (573-636-3731 or molly.jones@wwt.com) or Linda Rice (314-301-2680 or linda.rice@wwt.com) at World Wide Technology, Inc.



Ed Tech Research, Publications, Resources

ED gives preview of new ed tech plan

Student data management, online assessment, and eLearning will be key issues in the next national educational technology plan presented to Congress by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), according to Susan Patrick, director of the department's Office of Educational Technology. Expected to be released at the end of September, the new ed tech plan will continue the shift from counting the number of computers in each classroom to improving student achievement with technology.

Consisting of a 20-page document, case studies, and an array of web resources, the new plan will examine where educational technology stands today, who today's students are, and what they expect from their education. It also will provide a roadmap with approximately seven steps that educators and policy makers should take to use technology to improve leadership and student learning. Source: eSchool News online, August 30, 2004.

See article: <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/showStoryts.cfm?ArticleID=5227>.

Facilitating school reform: case for “ed technologist”

According to Judith Davidson (University of Massachusetts at Lowell) much of the comprehensive school reform movement has paid close attention to the respective roles of teachers and principals, and that relatively little attention to the influence of school-based educational technologist. She examined more than six years of research data from studies of networked technology integration in one K-12 system; she examined the emergence of the educational technology specialist, a position responsible for the integration of curriculum and technology within the schools, that fast became a central focus of the work. Davidson claims that the emergence of the this staff position has "served as a catalyst for the vertical reorganization of the social hierarchy within the schools, meaning that its growing presence challenged and reshaped traditional role definitions of teacher, administrator, and specialist."

See: <http://www.tcrecord.org/Content.asp?ContentID=11138>

Resources on using data for professional development

Now more than ever, school districts and state education agencies are crunching test numbers to determine what students are learning, where they are failing, and how schools need to work differently. Much of this is being done for accountability purposes and to determine if schools are meeting federal requirements for "adequate yearly progress." The NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education (NFIE) website includes a research brief "Using Data about Classroom Practice and Student Work to Improve Professional Development for Educators" and an extensive list of online resources that can help schools use data to raise achievement and improve teaching. See: <http://www.nfie.org/usingdata.htm>.

Free! New Generation Y student CD

The fourth annual Generation Y student CD provides numerous examples of technology-infused lessons created by Gen Y students and their partner teachers during the 2003-04 school year. Every project features the full project description, procedures, lesson objectives, state standards addressed and contains an accompanying video. For a free copy, visit http://www.genyes.org/scripts/cd_request.php.

New guide on using technology for students with disabilities

NSBA's ITTE: Education Technology Programs released "Technology for Students with Disabilities: A School Leader's Resource Guide." The guide is designed to give school board members, superintendents, technology coordinators, and other educators authoritative and practical advice on a broad range of issues, including supporting teaching and learning with assistive technology; funding assistive technology programs; and, understanding the legal and regulatory context. The guide can be purchased at https://secure.nsba.org/pubs/item_info.cfm?ID=714

QED releases 2004-2005 Technology Purchase Forecast

Wireless technology continues to be a major investment for school districts in the United States, enabling them to deliver resources such as instructional software and the Internet to more students in a cost effective and convenient manner. This is a key finding of the 2004-2005 Technology Purchasing Forecast, 10th edition by Quality Education Data, Inc. (QED), an education market research and database firm. According to the report, about half of the school districts in the United States have portable wireless labs on carts (or COWs), and more than 30% of districts surveyed plan to purchase such technology during the 2004-2005 school year. In addition, nearly 14% of schools currently own wireless desktop or laptop instructional computers and 23% plan to invest in this technology in 2004-2005. The report can be purchased at <http://www.qeddata.com>.

Free online guide helps teachers evaluate classroom science resources

Developed by the Center for Science Education at the nonprofit Education Development Center in Newton, Mass., this free online guide is intended to help high-school science teachers evaluate the vast array of learning resources available on CD-ROM and the Internet. Called "Selecting Computer-Based High School Science Curricula: A Guide for Teachers," the resource confronts the challenge of using technology to enhance classroom science instruction. The guide provides a series of prescribed questions for educators to consider as they review computer-based materials. The questions cover four key educational areas: student learning, teaching and professional development, equity, and feasibility. Profiled are 12 electronic learning tools. See: <http://cse.edc.org/products/selectingcomputerbased>



eMINTS Program News

--Submitted by Monica Beglau, Director, eMINTS National Center

Changes and additions have been the order of the day this summer for the eMINTS National Center. As the eMINTS program has grown over the past few months, several changes have occurred with staffing.

Cindy Matzat, AIS from Area 2, has left the eMINTS program to work in the Branson School District. She will be deeply missed but will be continuing her eMINTS work as an LMS and eMINTS instructional specialist in the district.

Roxanne Kerwood-former West Cluster CIS- has taken Cindy's place as AIS for that Area.

Lorie Kaplan-former Central Cluster CIS-has taken a new position as eMINTS Program Coordinator working out of the Columbia office.

The following new Cluster Instructional Specialist have joined the program since July 26:

West Cluster - Evelyn Jones
Southeast Cluster - Carmen Marty (joining Julie Szaj)
Bootheel Cluster - Michele Smith (joining Gayle Cantrell)
Southwest Cluster - Brook Higgins (joining Ruth Henslee and Julie Phelps)
Central Cluster - Angie Esser (joining Christie McKenzie)

eMINTS welcomes these new staff members (several of them are former eMINTS teachers) as the program continues to support educators in Missouri and across the United States.

eMINTS schools and districts received awards, including grants, over the summer:

- The St. Louis City School District was recently notified of an \$8.4 million grant to implement the eMINTS program in a number of magnet schools in the district. This three-year grant will add up to 100 new eMINTS classrooms over the grant period. See more about the announcement at:
<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nfs/News/St.+Louis+City+%2F+County/38705F6BC3085BDB86256EE5001235F1?OpenDocument&Headline=Grant+will+expand+teaching+program&highlight=2%2Cemints>
- The Sullivan School District's eMINTS Instructional Specialist Karen Largent and eMINTS teacher Sharon Sumner worked with the ALTEC (Advanced Learning Technologies in Education Consortium) from the University of Kansas to create an Exhibit for the ALTEC Learning Interchange. The Exhibit features the lesson plan of 5th grade eMINTS teacher Carol Nowack on animal food chains. To hear these Sullivan educators talk about their eMINTS implementation and the animal food chain lesson go to:
http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/hpli/exhibits/1001333/Introduction.html Congratulations on your work with ALTEC and many thanks for your representation of the eMINTS program.
- Bunker School District was awarded a Comprehensive School Reform grant to expand the eMINTS program into grade 7-12.
- Three elementary schools in the St. Louis City District received Comprehensive School Reform grants to implement the eMINTS program. Ashland, Woodward and Clay Elementary schools.
- The Bolivar School District received notification that their eMINTS program will be featured at the National School Board Association Technology + Learning Conference Education Excellence Fair in Denver, CO October 27-29. The Bolivar program includes participation in the PD4ETS program and the eMINTS classrooms grades 3-5. The district is also to be featured in an upcoming issue of the Springfield News Leader.

2004 Missouri Educational Technology Conference

--Submitted by Eric Nicklas, Program Manager, K-12 Technology Network Program, MOREnet

The 2004 Missouri Educational Technology Conference: Exploring Technology is scheduled for October 3-5, 2004 at Tan-Tar-A in Osage Beach, Missouri. This year's conference attendees will see enhancements that align with high-quality professional development standards, resulting in a more meaningful experience for all participants. Enhancements include a new, standardized strand format, a variety of session lengths and sessions that encourage more in-depth, hands-on and ongoing study, practice and discussion.

The conference offers a variety of program sessions organized into 15 themes that range from 7 to 12 hours. Attend a specific theme for a rich experience promoting more in-depth discussion and

participant networking that likely will extend beyond the conference, or select individual sessions from a variety of themes for a broader conference experience.

Complete session descriptions will be available on the conference website in early August (<http://www.more.net/conferences/fall2004/>).

The Exhibitor Fair will again be expanded to occur during the first two days of the conference (October 3 and 4). The Exhibitor Fair allows attendees to view and discuss the most current educational technologies available.

The conference also offers an opportunity to experience student technology projects first hand. These projects are written and/or produced by students. The projects selected to exhibit will cover a wide-range of technologies and grade levels. Each attendee is encouraged to visit the Student Technology Showcase on Monday, October 4, in Windgate Hall.

The conference registration fees include meals, admission to breakout sessions and the exhibitor fair. Pre-conference costs for Sunday are \$75. Monday and Tuesday only costs \$225. Three-day registration costs \$300. After online registration closes Sept. 24, a \$10 late fee will be assessed. Payment must be received within five working days of the submission date of your online registration or the registration will be cancelled.

The conference website is available at <http://www.more.net/conferences/fall2004/> . Please contact Sandra Monnig, Conference Coordinator, if you have any questions regarding the conference, registration procedures, scheduling, or if you have needs that require specific assistance.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!

2004 Missouri Educational Technology Conference Web Seminar (Live Event)

--Submitted by Eric Nicklas, Program Manager, K-12 Technology Network Program, MOREnet

MOREnet has scheduled a Web Seminar on the 2004 Missouri Educational Technology Conference for Wednesday, September 8, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Registration is required to participate.

Join the conference organizers from MOREnet for an interactive peek at what this year's fall conference holds for attendees. If you have been to past conferences, you'll want to know about the new enhancements. If you are thinking of attending for the first time, get the details to make your conference experience a successful one. You'll also have the opportunity to ask questions directly and receive immediate answers.

This session is being provided online via MOREnet's new e-Conferencing service powered by Centra. All you need is a computer with an Internet connection, a Web browser like Internet Explorer and speakers or a headphone to hear the conversation. You may also want to have a microphone available to ask questions. If that's not possible, you can still type your questions and receive feedback.

Besides learning about conference highlights, you'll receive first-hand experience with this fun, new tool. On top of all that, this session is free.

To register go to <http://MOREnet>

Security Symposium

--Submitted by Eric Nicklas, Program Manager, K-12 Technology Network Program, MOREnet

On December 6-7, 2004, MOREnet will host the 2004 Advanced Technical Security Symposium at the MOREnet training facilities in Columbia, Missouri. The Advanced Technical Security Symposium brings a diverse group of professionals from across the Missouri public sector who are involved with and interested in computer security issues. Conference attendees are from Missouri state government, community information networks, public libraries, higher education and K-12 schools.

The Symposium reflects a growing movement to pool information and resources to combat a common threat. Computer security issues, both network and host, are critical to any entity on the Internet. New questions emerge on a daily basis covering issues ranging from legal and technical to policy and staffing issues. Join the Symposium and share!

Presentation proposals are being accepted until September 27, 2004. MOREnet request presentation submissions that cover novel and practical ways to implement security solutions in very diverse networks environments. See <http://www.more.net/conferences/symposium2004/> for more information details. The online proposal form is available online at <http://www.more.net/conferences/symposium2004/presentation-submit.html>.

Additional Internet Bandwidth Available to K-12 Schools

--Submitted by Eric Nicklas, Program Manager, K-12 Technology Network Program, MOREnet

Now in its second year as a MOREnet K-12 Technology Network Program service, each participating school district is eligible to receive the additional bandwidth necessary to carry out its educational activities for no additional cost. Districts that fully utilize their current bandwidth may have their bandwidth increased up to 20 Mbps.

This benefit of the MOREnet K-12 Technology Network Program allows districts to enhance and grow their services and offerings without having to sacrifice performance or worry about the current bandwidth.

Contact Eric Nicklas at eric@more.net (573-882-9785) for information regarding increasing bandwidth to your school district.

New Website, Grants.gov, Offers One-Stop Service for Applying for Federal Grants

The federal government has launched a single, comprehensive website that contains information about finding and applying for all federal grant programs. The website, Grants.gov, makes it easier for organizations as well as state and local agencies to learn about and apply for federal grants. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services led the development of the cross-agency website, which now has information on more than 900 available grant programs involving all 26 federal grant-making agencies. These agencies together award more than \$350 billion annually in grant funds.

The site provides information in a standardized format across agencies and includes a "Find Grant Opportunities" feature. The site also contains an "Apply for Grants" feature that greatly simplifies the application process by allowing applicants to download, complete and submit applications on-line. This feature is especially important for entities that do not have access to high-speed Internet connections.

Another source of federal grants available for review is the [Federal Assistance Award Data System](#). This system is managed by the U.S. Census Bureau and documents the majority of federal funding flowing into states and territories. By comparing and contrasting funding by category to other states versus Missouri, this data system can assist in determining funding not previously sought. While this data system does not notify you of future or current funding availability as does Grants.gov, it can help you identify specific funding opportunities

previously awarded in other states. It is not a guarantee of future funding availability or eligibility.

Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities -- National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-3/081004c.html

From the Federal Register: August 10, 2004 [CFDA# 84.327P] – The purpose of this program is to: (1) improve results for children with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational media activities designed to be of educational value to children with disabilities; (3) provide support for some captioning and video description; and (4) provide cultural experiences through appropriate nonprofit organizations.

- Applications Available: August 10, 2004.
- Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: September 9, 2004.
- Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies (SEAs); local educational agencies (LEAs); institutions of higher education (IHEs); other public agencies; nonprofit private organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.
- Estimated Available Funds: \$650,000.
- Estimated Average Size of Awards: Development: \$400,000; Technical assistance and dissemination: \$250,000.
- Maximum Award: Development: \$400,000; Technical assistance and dissemination: \$250,000. We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum award for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.
- Estimated Number of Awards: 2.

Additional Information: Applicable regulations, priorities, and other information are available in the Federal Register notice. Additional information is available online at:

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-3/081004c.html

Technology and Media Services for Individuals with Disabilities -- Television Access

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/announcements/2004-3/081004d.html

From the Federal Register: August 10, 2004 [CFDA# 84.327C] – The purpose of the Technology and Media Services for Individuals With Disabilities -- Television Access competition is to: (1) improve results for children with disabilities by promoting the development, demonstration, and use of technology; (2) support educational media activities designed to be of educational value to children with disabilities; (3) provide support for some captioning and video description; and (4) provide cultural experiences through appropriate nonprofit organizations.

- Applications Available: August 10, 2004.
- Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: September 9, 2004.
- Eligible Applicants: State educational agencies (SEAs); local educational agencies (LEAs); institutions of higher education (IHEs); other public agencies; nonprofit private organizations; outlying areas; freely associated States; Indian tribes or tribal organizations; and for-profit organizations.
- Estimated Available Funds: \$2,825,000.
- Estimated Average Size of Awards: Local News and Public Information Programs: \$125,000;
- Accessible Children's Television Programs: \$300,000.
- Maximum Award: Local News and Public Information Programs: \$125,000; Accessible Children's Television Programs: \$300,000. We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding the maximum award for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.
- Estimated Number of Awards: 14.

Additional Information: Applicable regulations, priorities, and other information are available in the Federal Register notice.

Free Videoconferenes From the Baseball Hall of Fame

--Submitted by Martha Bogart, Coordinator, Distance Learning, Cooperating School Districts



BASEBALL AS AMERICA

Organized by the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Cooperstown, NY, Sponsored by Ernst & Young

This traveling exhibition opens December 19, 2004 at the Missouri History Museum in Forest Park in St. Louis, MO; it closes April 24, 2005. Admission Fees: Adults \$8, Seniors \$7, Students \$4, Members and children under 6 receive free admission.

The exhibition includes approximately 500 of the most precious artifacts from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, NY. Some of the highlights are Jackie Robinson's 1956 Brooklyn Dodgers jersey; a variety of items from the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League; and record-setting bats from the McGwire-Sosa home run chase of 1998, as well as those of Babe Ruth and Roger Maris. Many priceless St. Louis Cardinals and St. Louis Browns artifacts are also featured in the exhibition.

Baseball Hall of Fame Videoconferences

In conjunction with this exhibit, CSD is pleased to offer two exciting videoconference options. You may choose either one, or both. These are FREE to New Links members:

Preparation Session and Tour of Exhibition

Staff at the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown will broadcast to your class (via videoconference) and prepare your students for a tour of the exhibition at the Missouri Historical Society. If your students decide to then go to the Missouri History Museum and view the exhibit, they will receive a 50 percent discount on the entry fee. In addition, one adult will receive a free admittance for every 10 students.

Baseball Curriculum Units

The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum offers ten thematic units, delivered via videoconference, covering women's history, character education, mathematics, geography, economics, U.S. history, technology, cultural diversity, the fine arts and communication arts (for a detailed description of each of the units, go to <http://www.baseballhalloffame.org/education/units/default.htm>). New Links to New Learning members may sign up for unlimited programs, but the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum requires two weeks advance notice. To sign up, contact Martha Bogart at mbogart@scd.org . Here is a list of the units available:

- American History: A Stitch In Time
- Character Education: Lou Gehrig — The Iron Horse
- Communication Arts: Going, Going, Gone!
- Cultural Diversity: Before You Could Say "Jackie Robinson"
- Economics: The Business of Baseball
- Fine Arts: Painting the Corners
- Geography: Baseball Coast To Coast
- Math: Batter Up!
- Technology: Baseball Grows Up
- Women's History: Dirt On Their Skirts

We will also be having a videoconference for teachers only on September 15 from 4:00-5:00pm. This videoconference will introduce teachers to the videoconference units listed above so that they can make informed decisions about which one they want to choose. FREE to New Links members.



Lewis and Clark Then and Now

--Submitted by Martha Bogart, Coordinator, Distance Learning, Cooperating School Districts of St. Louis

mbogart@csd.org

Lewis and Clark Then and Now is excited to announce its schedule of programming for the fall semester of the 2004-2005 school year. As before, our schedule will include **Live with Lewis** segments while the Discovery Expedition is on the trail, **Special Events**, and **Distance Learning Videoconferences**. Each program will be viewable live over our website (<http://ali.apple.com/lewisandclark>) at the date and time included below. Don't forget that for each of our **Distance Learning Videoconferences** groups from four to six schools may join us via videoconference connection. If you're interested in joining us as a videoconference school for any of those programs, just e-mail or call (314-773-6934) to find out if space is still available. Preparatory materials are available for each videoconference whether you join us as a videoconference school or choose to participate over the web. Agendas are also available a few days in advance for each of our **Live with Lewis** webcasts. Thanks to the generosity and support of our sponsors and collaborators, there are no fees for your participation in any program. As always, each program will be archived on the web site about a week after its live showing.

The Fall Schedule and a variety of other new features are now available on our updated web site. We've summarized a few of the changes below. Please check us out at <http://ali.apple.com/lewisandclark>.

- **Our Fall 2004 Distance Learning Schedule is now available.** Just click on "broadcast schedule" after arriving at our home page. There you'll see the list of programs for the fall. Any hotlinked titles have additional details available in their web exhibits. Just click on the title link to be taken to the exhibit for more details on content and the related learning activities, resources and standards pages. Be sure to check out the broadcast schedule often because we will be updating web exhibits regularly.
- **Archived programs are now searchable by both chronology and curriculum.** Just click on "archived broadcasts" after arriving at the home page. Once there, you'll find more information about our archives (all programs are archived on the site) and see the links to take you to the archives themselves. If you're interested in searching by date of webcast (most programs are related to locations and time frames of the expedition 200 years ago), click on "Archives Arranged by Chronology" and pick the time frame you want to peruse. If you're interested in searching by curriculum content, click on "Archives Arranged by Curriculum." Curriculum divisions reflect the wide variety of subjects covered in our programs and are organized into the following categories: social studies, United States history, science, mathematics, fine arts, language arts, practical arts, health, and foreign language.
- **Our home page now has a link to the next webcast.** When you're ready to watch this Thursday for our Live with Lewis from Yankton, South Dakota, just go to our home page and click on this link to be taken to the streaming video page. Diane Norton will be joining us this week for a feature focus on bicentennial merchandise.
- **Find more details about the format and content** for our Live with Lewis segments, Special Event programs, and Distance Learning Videoconferences by clicking on the link "Types of Programming" which you'll now find on our home page.
- **To learn more about how you and your students can participate** in webcasts and videoconferences and other aspects of the project, just click on the "How to be Involved" link that you'll find on our home page.
- **Looking for technical help** to make sure your computer is ready to watch a webcast, and then click on the "Video Setup" link on our home page.
- Want to find out more about the project but not sure where to look, **check out our "Frequently Asked Questions"** page first by clicking on the FAQ link on our home page.

- As always, you can **read Scott Mandrell's journals and see images from the trail** by clicking on the "Reenactment Journals" link on the home page.

Thanks to each of you for your support of ***Lewis and Clark Then and Now***. Lewis and Clark Then and Now is co-sponsored by the School District of Clayton, Missouri and the Discovery Expedition of St. Charles. Financial support is provided by a grant from the National Park Service Challenge Cost Share Program.

Additional national collaborators include: Missouri Historical Society, Cooperating School Districts of St. Louis, MOREnet, American Distance Education Consortium, Kappa Delta Pi, Ohio State University, OARnet, Polycom, KarlNet, Transportable Internet, Inc., Tachyon, Internet2, Peter Kiewit Institute, Buder Center for American Indian Studies, United States Army National Guard Bureau, the Greater St. Charles Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the St. Louis County Cable Television Public Educational Commission.

◆ Are You a Technology Leader?

www.techlearning.com.



You still have time to be recognized as an Ed Tech Leader by the most respected K-12 education technology publication in the business. [Technology & Learning's](#) 2004 Ed Tech Leader of the Year program offers FABULOUS opportunities.

- Four finalists will be invited to be our guests at the NSBA T+L2 conference in Denver, CO on October 27-29, 2004 (prize includes free airfare, lodging and conference registration).
- Finalists will each receive a HP Compaq Tablet PC tc1100.
- Each semifinalist will receive: a one-year subscription to Technology & Learning magazine, a personalized award certificate, and recognition in the December 2004 Awards Issue.
- Deadline: September 10, 2004

Click [here](#) to nominate yourself or a colleague to be Technology & Learning's 2004 Ed Tech Leader of the Year. Spread the word - Technology & Learning's 2004 [Ed Tech Leader of the Year](#) contest deadline is fast approaching! Don't miss out!

◆ Missouri Schools and Programs in the News

Bernie School District

Michele Carmode, district technology trainer and band director for Bernie High School in Bernie, MO was one of the 30 winners of the 2004 Inspired Teacher Scholarships for Visual Learning. This scholarship program supports professional development activities for educators in K-12 schools, colleges, and universities who champion the integration of visual learning and technology into the curriculum. Michele incorporates visual learning, including graphic organizers, into her music appreciation classes and presents workshops to help district teachers integrate visual learning techniques into their curriculum. Recipients use the \$750 scholarships for a wide range of professional development activities. Congratulations Michele!

Cape Girardeau School District

Becky Hicks, second grade teacher at Barbara Blanchard Elementary School in Cape Girardeau, MO also received the 2004 Inspired Teacher Scholarships for Visual Learning. Becky uses visual learning to teach everything from the concept of the water cycle to writing skills. She shares

information with her colleagues through workshops and inservices and also includes updates on her web page. Becky was one of two Missouri scholarship recipients. Congratulations Becky!



eMINTS Questions of the Month

Q. How can I help students who, when working in groups and on WebQuests, have difficulty proofreading their own work? They tend to substitute correct words, pauses, etc. when reading but do not see or correct their answers.

A. I think we all need good editors when we get "too close" to our work. I have the updates checked before I send them out. When I was teaching, I usually said that the students needed to print a copy of their written work for each member of the group. Then with everyone following along, the "author" read their work aloud. Often they would catch each other's errors. I also had "policies" at times when everyone in the group would sign the written work so the group took ownership of the final edit not just the person entering the text.

Before "publishing" their work I would often do another edit myself, but rather than marking up a copy of their work, I would read sections aloud to them and ask if they wanted to change anything. I exaggerated missing punctuation, etc. This let me know if it was an editing problem or if the students really didn't know the correct rules or usage. (Jennifer Kuehnle)

Q. What are some other kinds of "products" my students can create besides PowerPoints to show they have learned something?

A. eMINTS teachers are very creative in designing products that are meaningful for the specific curriculum goals that they have. A PowerPoint is not always the best product. Here is a list of some other ideas:

- letter to parents or to the editor of the local paper
- ABC book illustrating something shared with younger grades
- living museum
- series of journal entries
- play
- radio show
- video tape
- poster or part of a bulletin board
- web page
- three dimensional display
- story
- email exchange about a certain topic
- paper mache model
- docent led tours of 3D projects that students have created
- design a device to solve a problem (either picture or model of the device)

There are many others. If you are looking for an idea for a specific project the eMINTS list is a great resource for good ideas! (Janice Friesen)



Copyright Question of the Month

Q. May an educator (e.g., administrator, classroom teacher, substitute teacher, or student teacher) other district employee, volunteer, or others capture a web page using software or other means to be used in face-to-face instruction?

A. No There are several commercially-produced software applications that allow the capture of the entire web page and/or site. The use of these applications may constitute a violation of copyright law as the software captures 100 percent of the web page.



Grant Writing Tips

www.techlearning.com/grants.html

Source: Technology & Learning

1. TIP: Write realistic, measurable goals and objectives. Project goals, objectives, and strategies for measuring progress almost always require some changes. However, a carefully planned proposal will require less revision, saving you time and aggravation during program implementation.
2. NCLB TIP: No Child Left Behind requires schools to provide tutors to students not achieving academic targets. Online instruction may be used to provide these supplemental tutoring services. This approach may be particularly effective for students in remote areas, and may be funded through NCLB.
3. TIP: Use reliable data. It's important to paint an accurate picture of the current state of affairs in your school, district, and/or community. Use data that you know is accurate and up-to-date. Include information about the challenges you face and the strengths your program will build on.
4. NCLB TIP: Although individual entities such as Local Education Agencies (LEAs) are eligible to apply for No Child Left Behind funds, there are increased requirements that the school district be able to document partnerships with community-based agencies and institutions of higher learning. Establish or broaden these relationships now to maintain eligibility for funding.
5. TIP: Define your needs and explain how they were identified. Good proposals include succinct descriptions of the needs that will be met. They also clearly explain the processes and data used to identify these needs. This shows readers you've done your homework.
6. NCLB TIP: Increased teacher quality is an important issue in No Child Left Behind legislation. Online training for teachers is a strategy that may be funded using NCLB dollars.



Grant Funding Opportunities

Source: Technology & Learning

For descriptions of the individual grants, go to the www.techlearning.com/grants.html

Deadline	Grant
September 7	National Geographic Society Education Foundation's Grosvenor Program Grants www.nationalgeographic.com/foundation
September 15	Innovation Learning & Leadership Grants sponsored by the NEA Foundation for the Improvement of Education www.nfie.org
September 30	SMARTer Kids Grants for NEC Visual Presentation Products www.smarterkids.org
September 30	The SMARTer Kids Grants for SMART Products www.smarterkids.org
October 1	Teammates for Kids Grants http://touchemall.com/index.htm
October 1	Toshiba Small Grants Program for K-6 Science and Math Education www.toshiba.com/taf
October 12	The National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for Teachers (RET) Program www.nsf.gov/pubsys/ods/getpub.cfm?nsf03554
October 15	Home Depot's At-Risk Youth Grants www.homedepot.com

October 22	NASA Office of Space Science's Initiative to Develop Education through Astronomy and Space Science (IDEAS) Grants http://ideas.stsci.edu
November 1	American Honda Foundation Grant www.honda.com
November 1	Tiger Woods Foundation www.twfound.org
November 15	Shell Science Teaching Award www.nsta.org/awardscomp
Ongoing	Educational Foundation of America Grants www.efaw.org
Ongoing	Intel Community Grants www.intel.com
December 5	The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics offers several grants for teachers through the Mathematics Education Trust (MET): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarence Olander Grants: In-Service Training for Elementary Schools • Dale Seymour Scholarships • E. Glenadine Gibb • Ernest Duncan Grants (teachers 7-12) • Mary Dolciani Grants (teachers 7-12) • John and Stacey Wahl Grants • Theoni Pappas Incentive Grants www.nctm.org/about/met
January 7	Toyota TIME (Toyota's Investment in Mathematics Excellence) Grants www.nctm.org/about/toyota/index.asp
January 15	The International Reading Association sponsors several grant opportunities for IRA members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elva Knight Research Grants • The Helen M. Robinson Grant • Nila Banton Smith Research Dissemination Support Grants • Teacher as Researcher Grants www.reading.org/awards/
January 15	Home Depot's At-Risk Youth Grants www.homedepot.com



Mark Your Calendar

September 1	Newsline published online
September 6	Labor Day—State offices closed
September 9	MO Rural Opportunities Council Telecommunications/Education Committee Meeting (1:15 p.m.-3:30 p.m.) Governor Office Building, Room 316, Jefferson City, MO
September 25	Newsline articles due
September	Second payment for eMINTS and Safe Schools
October 1	Newsline published online



Upcoming 2004-2005 Conferences

September 26-28	EdNET 2004 Chicago, IL http://hellerreports.com/conferences/ednet2004/index.aspx
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October 1	Software Plus Third Annual Conference (FREE) Junior League of St. Louis 10435 Clayton Rd., St. Louis, MO 63131 888-251-7638 ext 129
October 3-5	Technology Exploration: Improving Teaching and Learning 2004 Missouri Educational Technology Conference Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO http://www.more.net/conferences/fall2004/
October 4-5	2004 Virtual High School Symposium Grand Hyatt Atlanta Atlanta, GA http://www.eClassroom.com/VHS2004 .
October 19-22	EDUCAUSE 2004 Denver, CO http://www.educause.edu/conference/annual/2004/
October 25-26	K-12 Interactive Video Conference Indianapolis, IN http://www.k12videoconf.org/
December 9-12	ACTE Annual Convention and Career Tech Expo Las Vegas, NV http://www.acteonline.org/convention/index.cfm
April 3-5, 2005	Preparing the Next Generation for Technological Literacy ITEA Conference and Exhibition Kansas City, MO http://www.iteawww.org/D2.html .



From the Mailbag

Set A Guinness World Record With National Geographic Kids!

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngkids/surprise/guinness/world_record.html

Help them create the world's longest line of footprints! Simply print out the online template and trace around your bare foot or step in something such as mud or paint, and then make your footprint. You can be creative and decorate your footprint with markers, glitter, whatever you want! A parent or guardian must fill out and sign the release form for all minors. Postmark deadline is October 15, 2004. Ask your friends and family to enter. They need 10,000 footprints to break the record!

Coca-Cola Foundation Grants

<http://www2.coca-cola.com/citizenship/education.html>

The Coca-Cola Foundation will provide funds to find new solutions to problems that impede educational systems and to support effective existing programs. Examples of eligible programs include classroom teaching and learning programs, innovative K-12 public school programs, teacher development programs, and projects dealing with specific activities in K-12 classrooms. All public and private elementary and secondary schools, as well as colleges and universities, teacher training programs, educational programs for minority students, and global education programs are eligible to apply. See website for specific application deadlines.

Best Buy Children's Foundation Grants

<http://communications.bestbuy.com/communityrelations/teach.asp>

Grant Title: te@ch Program

Organization: Best Buy Children's Foundation
Eligibility: U.S. schools near Best Buy stores
Value: \$2,500 Best Buy gift card per award
Deadline: October 1, 2004

The Best Buy Children's Foundation will award \$3 million in Best Buy gift cards to 1,200 schools whose educators use technology to make learning fun. The te@ch program awards a \$2,500 Best Buy gift card to schools in recognition of programs or projects that creatively integrate interactive technology into the curriculum. Each selected school must be located within 25 miles of a Best Buy store. Applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. The earlier an application is received, the better the chances of receiving a te@ch grant.

Inspired Teacher Scholarships for Visual Learning Grants

<http://www.inspiration.com/scholarship>

Grant Title: 2005 Inspired Teacher Scholarships for Visual Learning

Organization: Inspiration Software

Eligibility: Teachers from K-12 schools, colleges, and universities

Value: Scholarships worth \$750 each

Deadline: January 27, 2005

For the seventh year, the Inspired Teacher Scholarship program will support professional development activities for K-12 and higher-education instructors who champion the integration of visual learning and technology into the curriculum. Inspiration Software will award 30 scholarships worth \$750 each in the spring of 2005. The company says it is committed to supporting K-20 educators as they use graphic organizers and other visual learning tools to help students develop strong thinking and organizational skills and improve their academic performance. Educators from K-12 schools, colleges, and universities are eligible to apply. A minimum of one year of service is required, and applicants must demonstrate that they have direct contact with students. Applications will be available September 14 on the program's web site.

Heart of America Foundation Poster and Essay Contests

<http://www.heartofamerica.org>

The Heart of America Foundation invites students in grades one through twelve to submit posters and essays illustrating the importance one of its "Ten Core American Values." The poster contest is open to students in grades one-five, and the essay contest is open to students in grades six-twelve. Posters in any medium should be a minimum size of 8"x11". Essays should be titled, double spaced, and not exceed 500 words. See website for more details. Each winner will receive a \$100 Savings Bond, two night trip to Sarasota, Florida including airfare with one parent/guardian, and two tickets to Busch Gardens. Application Deadline: 10/15/2004.

Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program

<http://www.iie.org/fmf>

The Fulbright Memorial Fund (FMF) Teacher Program, administered by the Japanese-United States Exchange Commission and the Institute of International Education, offers teachers and administrators of grades one-twelve an opportunity for a fully funded three-week professional development opportunity in Japan. FMF participants travel with other outstanding educators, learn about Japanese culture and education, and return home to implement a self-designed plan to share their knowledge and experience with their students, colleagues, and community. It is upon their return that the true value of the FMF program emerges, as students, schools, communities, and the individual participants all benefit from the FMF experience by gaining new ideas about culture, curriculum, and by expanding global perspectives. Now in its ninth year of existence, FMF sends 600 educators annually. 2005 FMF study visits will take place in June, October and November. Interested individuals may apply online or request further information by calling the Institute of International Education (IIE) at 888-527-2636. Application Deadline: 12/10/2004.

American History Workshops for Professional Development

<http://www.neh.gov/projects/landmarks.html>

The National Endowment for the Humanities is offering K-12 educators individual grants of \$500 to attend its Landmarks of American History Workshops. These are weeklong residence programs of scholarship and discussion focusing on various topics in American history and conducted at

significant historical sites. All K-12 classroom teachers in public, private, parochial, and charter schools within the United States and its Territories are eligible to apply, as well as administrators, librarians, substitute teachers, and classroom paraprofessionals at these schools.
Application Deadline: 3/15/2005 (Tentative) (2004 info).

Dow Awards

http://www.dow.com/about/corp/social/gen_fund.htm

The Dow Chemical Company has made available \$20 million in grant funds to support proposed initiatives concentrating on math and science, teacher training, and parental involvement for K-12 school districts. Grant proposals should focus on giving K-12 students science and engineering experiences, giving teachers the training to provide these experiences, and fostering parental and community involvement. School districts and school boards nationwide, as well as programs that promote systemic education reform in math and science, are eligible to apply. Special attention is given to school districts around communities where Dow is located. Application Deadline: Varies.

http://www.dow.com/about/corp/social/gen_fund.htm

Braitmayer Foundation Grants

<http://www.braitmayerfoundation.org/guid.htm>

The Braitmayer Foundation offers grants of up to \$10,000 to fund a broad range of K-12 education programs, with a particular interest in curricular reform initiatives and professional development opportunities for teachers, particularly those encouraging people of high ability and diverse background to enter and remain in K-12 teaching. All K-12 schools in the United States, as well as independent 501(c)(3) organizations with an interest in education, are eligible to apply. Application Deadline: 11/15/2004.

Cyberlearning Grants

www.cyberlearning.org

Cyberlearning is offering \$25 million in matching grants this year to schools, colleges, non-profits, associations, government agencies and corporations, especially interested in bridging the digital divide. If interested, contact the grants director at rdonovan@cyberlearning.org. Visit the website for more grant details and application forms.



Internet Sites of Interest

The NetSmartz Workshop®

[The NetSmartz Workshop](#) is an interactive, educational resource from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and Boys and Girls Clubs of America for children, teens, parents, educators, and law enforcement using age-appropriate, 3D activities to teach children how to stay safer on the Internet.

i-SAFE Student Mentoring Program

http://www.isafe.org/channels/sub.php?ch=2&sub_id=1

i-SAFE created the Student Mentoring Program to provide a fun and easy way to inform others in your school and community about the important message of Internet safety. After a student registers in the Mentors Club, you will receive the FREE i-SAFE Student Internet Safety Tool Kit, also known as the 'T-Kit,' to help you get started. The T-Kit is full of ideas, suggestions, and resources to help you spread the important message of Internet safety throughout your school and community.

Weatherclassroom.com - A Back-to-School Resource

www.weatherclassroom.com/

As the new school year begins, access <http://www.wetherclassroom.com/> for exciting new educational content. Whether you are a teacher looking for standards-based lesson plans, a student looking for answers to common weather questions in Homework Help, or a parent searching for experiments your child can do at home, this website has something for everyone.

2004 Summer Olympics

Athens 2004 Olympic Games

<http://www.athens2004.com>

As you explore the different themes presented in Life in Ancient Egypt, look for examples of change and continuity, tradition and innovation.

Go for the Gold @ Scholastic

http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/athens_games/

Celebrate the history of Athens and international competition as students learn about ancient history, send postcards, submit an essay on why their town would make a great future site and even catch up on Greek prefixes and suffixes.

Olympics Through Time

<http://agones.fhw.gr>

Presented by the Foundation of the Hellenic World, this site offers an overview of the Olympics, from the first organized athletic festivals in Minoan Crete to the present-day Olympic Games.

Ancient Egypt Webquest

<http://www.iwebquest.com/egypt/ancientegypt.htm>

Elementary and middle students can enjoy locating information on Ancient Egypt! Learn about Ancient Egyptian daily life, Egyptian mummies, Egyptian Hieroglyphics, King Tut (Tutankhamen), Egyptian games, and Archeology.

Olympics: Athens 2004

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/04olympics.html>

A complete review of the Summer Olympic Games, including medal standings by nation, leading individual medal winners and a breakdown of medal winners in all major events. Also includes historical information.

Back to School 2004

A to Z Teacher Stuff: Back to School Theme

http://atozteacherstuff.com/Themes/Back_to_School/index.shtml

This site includes lesson plans, thematic units, teacher tips, teacher discussion forums, downloadable teaching materials, printable pages, themes and more.

Kids Domain - School Fun

<http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/school/index.html>

It's time for fun and learning in school with crafts, printables, clip art, stories and lesson plans.

Back to School @ Scholastic

http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonrepro/k_2theme/bktoschool.htm

These activities offer great ways to get kids settled in and ready to learn. Use them to set up successful classroom routines while introducing and practicing key skills and curricular areas that you'll explore as the year goes on.

Back to School @ edHelper

http://www.edhelper.com/Back_To_School.htm

Includes reading comprehensions, printables, puzzles and more for teachers to start the year off great.

From Surfnetkids.com Presidential Election 2004

<http://www.surfnetkids.com/election2004.htm>

Because a democracy is a government led by its people, voting to elect our leaders is a vital responsibility. With November's presidential election just a few months away, the campaigns are heating up. Here are some online resources for kids and teens to learn about the American political process and keep up with the candidates.

BrainPOP: U.S. Presidential Elections

<http://www.brainpop.com/specials/election/>

The BrainPOP movies are a perennial Surfnetkids favorite for elementary and middle-school kids. This introduces the concepts of democracy, the two-party system, conventions, campaigning, voting and the Electoral College. It presents an overview of the 2000 tie-breaking Florida recount. After the

movie, test your knowledge by taking the quiz, and then click to the Electoral College movie to learn more.

MTV: Choose or Lose

<http://www.mtv.com/chooseorlose/>

Created to mobilize twenty million potential voters under the age of the thirty, Choose or Lose is one part education, one part entertainment, and one part promotion. Best educational clicks for high-school students are Voting 101 (Political Conventions, What are Swing States?) and Vote Smart (position papers in printable PDF on topics such as the environment and health care.) Best just-for-fun click is "Their Heads, Your Words" where you can submit a funny caption for the picture of the week.

PBS: Kids Democracy Project

<http://www.pbs.org/democracy/kids/>

This PBS site for grades three to six is evergreen because it does not specifically cover the 2004 elections, but rather the process itself. "How Does Government Affect Me?" is the largest of the three sections, with pages of learning on topics as diverse as funding local schools to checks and balances in the three branches of the federal government. "President for a Day" is an interactive exercise to learn all about the president's duties by creating a presidential agenda.

American Presidency Game Show Quiz

<http://www.surfnetkids.com/quiz/president/>

Presidential Word Guess

<http://www.surfnetkids.com/games/president-cc.htm>

Color the Presidential Seal

<http://www.surfnetkids.com/games/president-cb.htm>

Rock the Vote

Rock the Vote makes "political participation cool" by "incorporating the entertainment community and youth culture into its activities." Educational articles are interspersed with free MP3 downloads, and drawings for tickets to Rock the Vote fund-raising concerts. Learn election basics in Election 101 (you'll find it under Issues in the main horizontal menu.) Get answers to your voter registration questions in Voting FAQ (look for it under Action.)

Scholastic: Election 2004

Scholastic: Election 2004, an audio site tour by Scholastic reporters Alana and Daniel, introduces each of the five site sections, and is a great way to begin. Favorite clicks are Meet the Candidates (in Countdown to Election Day), History of our Elections (link on the homepage) and all the Activities. Activities include interactive and printable quizzes, an online scavenger hunt, a poll, and a terrific "If You Were President" game. Look for them in each of the sections.

eThemes

[Ancient Civilizations: China](#)

Learn about the ancient civilization of China. Read about daily life, history, dynasties, and ancient celebrations. See the art and the Great Wall. Learn about Confucius and Chinese women as warriors.

[Children Around the World: Child Labor](#)

These websites contain information about the history of child labor, and the child labor that still exists in the world today. Read about the different countries in which child labor occurs, what kind of work the children do, how much they are paid, and more. Includes maps, graphs, video clips, and interactive quizzes.

[Children Around the World: School and Daily Life](#)

These websites describe what going to school is like in different countries of the world. Includes typical school schedules, photographs, interviews with students, slideshows, and general information

about different school systems. There are also websites that go through the typical life of children and teenagers in other countries.

[Chromatography](#)

These websites are about chromatography. Includes information about using chromatography for ink identification. There are several lesson plans, experiments, and an interactive story. Includes a link to an eThemes resource on Forensic Science.

[Literature: "Artemis Fowl" Series by Eoin Colfer](#)

These sites are about the "Artemis Fowl" books and author Eoin Colfer. Includes quizzes, games, and book reviews. Also includes websites with information about trolls, fairies, and other magical creatures.

[Math: Misleading Graphs](#)

Learn about how graphs can misrepresent information. Learn how to avoid common errors and how to design good charts. These sites include illustrations, tips, activities, worksheets, and quizzes.

[Physics: Water-Bottle Rockets](#)

The following sites can help students understand how physics laws create motion and propel rockets. Learn about rocketry and how to build water-bottle rockets. These sites include lesson plans, activities, rocket launchers simulators, photographs, animations, and video.

[Utah: Famous Women](#)

Learn about famous women from Utah, both living and deceased including Reva Beck Bosone, Martha Hughes Cannon, Debbi Fields, and many more. There is a link to pictures of artwork completed by Utah women artists, the women honored by the Utah Commission for Women and Families, and a link to an eThemes Resource on Women's History Month.

[Architecture](#)

Learn about architecture around the world including how the St. Louis Gateway Arch and Hoover Dam were built, and stories about the people who built them. There are sites with lesson plans on how to teach students to draw floor plans, make blue prints, and draw their own architectural plans. Also included are several pictures of famous structures, lists of architecture books, and glossaries.

[Fishing](#)

These websites include information about fishing and fish. There are vocabulary worksheets, tips for catching fish, safety tips, and stories from other kids about their fishing experiences. Also includes some fun games with pictures and trivia about fishing. Included are eThemes Resources on Missouri Fish and Utah Fish.

[Grandparents](#)

These websites are about grandparents and their special relationships with their grandchildren. Includes lesson plans, printable activities, and booklists. There are also resources on dealing with the death of a grandparent. There are links to eThemes resources on Grandparents Day, Aging, and Interviewing Senior Citizens and Grandparents.

[Literature: "The Orphan of Ellis Island" by Elvira Woodruff](#)

Links about the book "The Orphan of Ellis Island" and author Elvira Woodruff. Includes activity suggestions from the author, as well as information about various themes in the book. Includes links to eThemes resources on the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island, Italy, Orphan Trains, and Historical Fiction.

[Literature: "Series of Unfortunate Events" Series by Lemony Snicket](#)

These sites are about the book series "Series of Unfortunate Events" by Lemony Snicket. Includes excerpts from the books, games, puzzles, and author interviews.

[Physics: Current Electricity](#)

These sites explain the nature of current electricity. Students can learn about directions of electrons' flow, differences between direct current (DC) and alternating current (AC) electricity, and compare current to static electricity. The sites include photos, movies, hands-on activities, lesson plans, and a link to the eThemes Resource on Static Electricity.

[Safety Signs](#)

These sites can help kids learn and become familiar with traffic, safety, caution, and ADA approved signs. The sites contain coloring pages, lesson plans and activities, and photographs of signs on the street.

[Space: Asteroids](#)

Learn about asteroids in the Asteroid and Kuiper Belts. Learn about the history of their discoveries, their composition, and orbits. Find out what materials can be mined in the future on asteroids surfaces. These sites contain photographs, diagrams, coloring pages, a movie and worksheets.

[Space: Black Holes](#)

Learn about one of the biggest mysteries in the Universe - a black hole. Find out how scientists throughout centuries developed theories that would explain the universe formation. The following sites discuss different theories about the existence of black holes. The sites contain images, diagrams, and animated simulations of black holes.

[Utah: Famous People](#)

Learn about the famous people, past and present, from Utah. Included are biographies, photographs, and information about Brigham Young, George Dern, Ezra Taft Benson, Butch Cassidy, and many more. There is also a link to the eThemes Resource on Utah: Famous Women.

[Utah: Geography](#)

These sites are about the different geographical regions and landforms in Utah. Learn about the Uinta Basin, Escalante National Monument, and the "Four Corners" as well as land use history of the Colorado Plateau. Includes the link to eThemes Resource: Utah Rocks and Minerals.

[Updated eThemes](#)

[Back-To-School Activities](#)

These sites feature class activities for starting off the school year. There are several icebreaker games along with activities and bulletin board ideas. Sites also include templates, checklists, and games for beginning teachers as well as teachers looking for new ideas.

[Mythology](#)

Various myths from different countries and cultures, emphasizing Greek myths and constellations. Includes links to sites with pictures and a museum tour.

[Solar System: Earth's Moon](#)

This resource is about the Moon that revolves around Earth. Learn about the waxing and waning phases. See video and photographs of the Moon. There are also sites that have information about the Moon as a solar body with quizzes, puzzles, and activities to help learn the Moon's phases. eThemes Resources on eclipses, planets, rotation and revolution are also included.

[Solar System: Eclipses](#)

These sites have information about solar and lunar eclipses. Includes descriptions, Webcasts, images, and charts. There are also sky charts and descriptions of the Earth, Moon, and Sun relationships.

[Solar System: Rotation and Revolution](#)

These sites demonstrate rotation, revolution, and the orbit of planets and moons in our solar system. Includes information about day/night cycles, rotational periods, constellations, moon phases, and telling time. Includes links to eThemes Resources on Earth's Moon and Planets.

[Lewis and Clark Expedition: Sacagawea](#)

These sites are about Sacagawea and the following Native American tribes: Flathead, Shoshone, Mandan, and Blackfeet. Includes a WebQuest on Lewis and Clark and Sacagawea.

[Lewis and Clark Expedition: York](#)

These sites contain information on York, William Clark's slave on the Corps of Discovery. York was the first African American to cross what is now the United States from coast to coast. Includes several journal entries which refer to York during the expedition. There is information about a future statue to honor York in Louisville. An eThemes Resource on the Lewis and Clark Expedition is linked.

[Math: Bar, Line, and Picture Graphs](#)

These sites include examples of different types of graphs such as bar, line, and pictographs. Many of the sites are interactive and demonstrate how graphing works. Also includes several hands-on activities. There are links to eThemes Resources on circle graphs and statistics to graph.

[Math: Circle Graphs/Pie Charts](#)

These sites include interactive games, activities, and simulations of circle graphs/pie charts. Also includes some basic data that can be analyzed and some scoring rubrics.

[Math: Statistics for Graphing](#)

These sites have statistics and information that students can use to create graphs. The sites include sports statistics, lengths of rivers, temperatures, and more. There are links to eThemes Resources on different types of graphs.

[Physics: Energy](#)

Learn about different forms of renewable and nonrenewable energy. Includes definitions, videos, online games, and quizzes. Also read tips on how to conserve energy. Includes links to an eMINTS WebQuest and eThemes Resources on heat, light, the electromagnetic spectrum, sound, and electricity.

[Physics: Roller Coaster Design](#)

These sites have information, pictures, and videos about roller coasters. Design your own roller coaster online or follow the hands-on instructions to make one in the classroom. Learn how physics concepts such as potential energy, kinetic energy, and inertia apply to these rides. There are links to an eMINTS WebQuest about roller coasters and eThemes Resources on simple machines and the scientific method.

[Space: Constellations](#)

View many illustrations of constellations. Learn how they were named and other historical information. Find out what phases the stars go through. Also learn about associated Roman and Greek mythology. Includes quizzes and a movie.